

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF NEW CASTLE
REGULAR MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING
TOWN HALL – 201 DELAWARE STREET – NEW CASTLE, DE
TUESDAY – APRIL 8, 2003 – 7:00 P.M.**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL

Present: Council President Castagno
Councilman DiAngelo
Councilman Reese
Councilman Balascio
Councilwoman Dr. Miller

Also Present: John Klingmeyer, Mayor; Janet Carlin, Treasurer; Robert Martin, City Administrator

Mr. Castagno – Review of Protocol with Council and Audience.

APPROVED BY DATE OF COMMITTEE REPORTS

Police Department Report	March 2003
Building Official Report	March 2003
Finance Department Report	March 2003
Public Works Report	March 2003

Dr. Miller moved to accept reports as submitted and it was seconded by Mr. Reese. Motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer's report read by Janet Carlin, Treasurer.

Informed that a revision of last month's report is available at City office.

Dr. Miller moved to approve Treasurer's report as presented. It was seconded by Mr. Reese. Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Public Hearing -	March 2003
Regular Council Meeting –	March 2003

Mr. Reese moved to approve the minutes as submitted. It was seconded by Mr. DiAngelo. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

None.

BUSINESS FROM THE MAYOR

The Mayor reported on the Hazard Mitigation Planning Process. Attended by Herb Swanson and John Klingmeyer presented by New Castle County. Funding for hazards of natural disaster or terrorist. Consensus is City should opt to be umbrellaed into the New Castle County Plan. Decision must be made by April 15, 2003.

BUSINESS FOR THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Last Council meeting for this Council. It has been an honor and privilege. Thanked Jean Williamson, Council Secretary, for an excellent and professional job. Dr. Miller thanks also to the City Clerk.

Sailing Club had their annual Beach Clean-up on April 5, 2003. Thank you to everyone who attended and helped.

BUSINESS FROM THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Received minutes from New Castle Flower Beautification Committee from March 18, 2003. Del Dot will work with Beautification Committee because we lost many trees last year. Penn Bantam Park ready for season. Trustee of New Castle Common has the opportunity to settle land ownership question with Brosius and Eliason Company.

Comcast yearly report. They do not plan to implement changes in rates. Franchise fee, \$47,622.15, has been received.

Trustee of New Castle Commons request that the "Old City Garage" be returned to Trustees Property because of its historical value. Have discussed with City Solicitor and Anita Bank, Trustee Secretary.

Trustee of New Castle Commons have the opportunity to settle land ownership questions with Brosius and Eliason Company.

Grant application for State Youth Employment Program must be received by May 9, 2003.

Recycling Assistance Grant Program will be awarded to New Castle. A movable recycling bin on a trailer may be ready by Day in Old New Castle, definitely by Separation day.

Department of Transportation provided a brochure focusing on the most important transportation issues facing Delaware.

Morman Keystone had part of building collapse. They have spent a large amount of money to rebuild. They are suffering great hardship and are requesting a tax break from the City.

Dr. Miller – Do not want to set a precedent.

Mr. Reese – They have already received a 10 year tax break. The Company has not been here for 15 years.

Mr. Balascio – What revenue would be lost if they left:

Zenith has provided their noise survey and the cost of the survey. Mr. Martin says City needs a second opinion. The cost of our own survey seems prohibitive. Will check with Perdue attempting a different solution:

- a. Present his report to an independent
- b. Have firm make a recommendation
- c. Look at our Ordinance (standards were set in the 1960's)

Mr. Castagno – City Financial Status, 75% of \$30,000.00 paid during State of Emergency for snow removal and can be retrieved from FEMA.

Mr. Reese – On the beautification, the proposal to raise the signs. Has this been acted upon?

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Bank Resolution in amount of \$26,215.67 to pay DayStar Sills for renovations to the Trolley Barn.

Dr. Miller moved to pay bank resolution. It was seconded by Mr. Reese. Motion passed unanimously.

Consideration of Street Paving requests to Senator Connor and Representative Mulrooney: Mr. DiAngelo read proposed street repair, approximately \$80,000.00 for street repairs. More streets need repair. List available at City Office.

Mr. Castagno – Proposal of street must accompany request. Requests is for matching funds.
Take an overall look. Take some consideration of curbing. Think creatively.

Mr. Martin – List given to Senators is for justification so this can be in their budget.

Dr. Miller motioned to accept the list and evaluate the opportunities to realign curbs and fix drainage. It was seconded by Mr. Reese. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion of Old City Garage Site at 4th and Chestnut Streets pursuant to request from the Trustee of New Castle Common.

Did the City default? Must check out legal points.

Mr. Castagno – Hope it stay OSR.

Charles Cobb – Did the appraisal, saw no codicil.

Mr. Reese – Suggest rezone property OSR before we surrender.

Discussion to support the Hazard Mitigation Plan with New Castle County.

Mr. Reese – Support the Hazard Mitigation Plan with New Castle County. It was seconded by Dr. Miller. Passed unanimously.

Resolution #2003-03 approving encroachment of a dwelling located at 2 Baldt Avenue.

Mr. Reese motioned to table Resolution #2003-03. It was seconded by Mr. Balascio. Passed unanimously.

Request to vend (hot dogs, soda, etc.) at the end of 3rd Street by tennis courts.

Dr. Miller asked to table this request. It was seconded by Mr. Reese. Passed unanimously.

Mr. Castagno – Proposed a signed resolution for Paul Taylor, a past city employee.

Mr. Reese motioned to create a signed resolution for Paul Taylor. It was seconded by Mr. DiAngelo. Passed unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Earl Carpenter – The homeowner is responsible for curbs and sidewalks. City will not pick up the cost of repair. Since State is paying for curbs on one side of Delaware Street in front of Courthouse, the City wishes to curb the other side.

Mr. Martin – They should be replaced but did not say who will replace them.

Earl Carpenter – Curb area for delivery purpose, unloading areas. Trucks are not using space. They park in the middle of Delaware Street.

Mr. Castagno – Talk to business owner. Find hours for delivery.

Mr. Martin – Deliveries before noon. Talk with Chief of Police.

Earl Carpenter – Trucks blocking cars and taking up space.

John DiMondi – Letter note read by Council. Request to be able to read letter. Feels this is a personal attack. Use City funds to defeat candidate.

David June – Higher code of conduct questionable. City Solicitor violated City Charter at Board of Adjustment Meeting. Have three issues: 1. Between 15 and 20 people at Boothhurst playing basketball blocked the streets to play. 2. RT #9, State Road, Every time it rains road floods. 3. Work zone on RT #41, need signs, is a safety issue (Mr. Martin to contact Del Dot).

Alma Melton – (Boothhurst) – For two years have been constantly harassed. Children congregate in streets. Something needs to be done. Trash everywhere. When does it become a public health issue?

Mr. Balascio – Police can be called every time they are there. Try to get a basketball court in the area.

Alma Melton – Need 2/3 of vote. Maintain, not develop. Hope to create open space. Bitterness toward young people.

Mr. Balascio – Will give phone number to address. Maintenance agreement and amend By-Laws.

Regular Meeting Minutes
April 8, 2003
Page 6

Alma Melton – Refer you to BC Consultants. What can be done now?

Mr. Balascio – Have police out there. Get children out of public right of way. Trash can be addressed for littering.

Alma Melton – Have a place to go across the street.

Dr. Miller – Go to the City code and enforce it.

Mr. Balascio – Police were very effective on 11th Street.

Alma Melton – Health problem. Does State override City?

Mr. Martin – Submit a health complaint.

David June – What is time line on Deemer property?

Mr. Castagno – City does not clean up private property. Company says Spring. No exact date.

David June – On 14th Street heavy water on street, attracting termites.

Dr. Miller motioned to adjourn meeting. It was seconded by Mr. DiAngelo. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Toner
City Clerk